

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present application; no claims having been amended, added, or cancelled by way of the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the listing of documents in the specification was objected to, the drawings were objected to, Claims 1-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chakraborty et al., and Claims 1-3, 8-10, and 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yocoyama.

The listing of documents in the specification was objected to as not being a proper Information Disclosure Statement. In response to this objection, included herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement listing various document cited in the specification. Accordingly, the objection to the listing of references is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

Figures 2D and 43 were objected to because of specific informalities. In response to these informalities, the changes suggested by the Office Action have been implemented. Accordingly, the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

Claims 1-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chakraborty et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As background information, the present invention may be utilized with or relates to hyper links between mediums, such as videos, sound, or text, to permit mutual reference. To express a region in a video, a mask image has been utilized. For hyper media used for displaying information of a moving object in a video, there has been some difficulty in specifying the object, as compared to the handling of a still image. The user may have difficulty in specifying a specific portion of the moving object in a video. Therefore, in prior systems, the user or system may describe a portion in the vicinity of the center of the object in a rough manner. The present invention may be utilized to improve on such a system by

describing object region data in a video using a small amount of data, and also facilitate the generation and handling of such data.

Turning now to specific claims, Claim 1 being a representative example, position data of a representative point of an approximate figure is extracted. This approximate figure approximates the region or a characteristic point of the region from the plurality of frames. Additionally, a function approximating a trajectory which links corresponding representative points or corresponding character points of successive frames is determined. This function is *represented by a parameter*. Moreover, there is a describing of the parameter of the function as the region data.

By representing the function as a parameter, it is possible for the invention to describe region data using a small quantity of data. As explained below, no prior art of record discloses or suggests a function which is *represented by a parameter*, as claimed.

Chakraborty et al. describes that video data is segmented into shots, the shots are subdivided into subshots using motion analysis to provide location information for the motions of objects of interest, and boundaries for the objects of interest are further described. See the Abstract of Chakraborty et al. However, this patent does not disclose or suggest the claimed feature of the function being represented by a parameter. The outstanding Office Action references Chakraborty et al. at column 8, lines 53-59 for this feature. What is disclosed at this section are, for example, S and T which are parameters *of* the equation (6). However, these parameters S and T do not represent the function as claimed.

Accordingly, the rejection is based on Chakraborty et al. should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3, 8-10, and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yokoyama. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The deficiencies of Yokoyama are similar to the deficiencies of Chakraborty et al. Specifically, Yokoyama does not disclose or suggest a function which is represented by a parameter, as claimed.

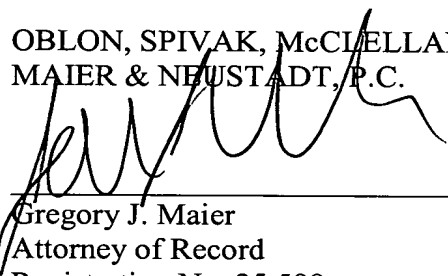
Yokoyama relates to a motion compensated inter-frame prediction method, and discloses that a frame is partitioned into square segments, representative points are set at the intersection points of the square grids, and the motion vectors of the representative points are detected. See column 4, lines 49-56 of Yokoyama. As disclosed at col. 9, lines 17-33, the representative points are added to a predetermined position in a triangular segment. The outstanding Office Action explains that the feature of a function being represented by a parameter is disclosed at column 8, line 66 to column 9, line 13 of Yokoyama. While a linear interpolation is disclosed at this portion of the Yokoyama patent, there is no disclosure or suggestion of a function represented by a parameter as claimed.

Accordingly, the rejection based on Yokoyama should be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the above discussions and in view of the present amendment, the present application is condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599



22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220

James J. Kulbaski
Registration No. 34,648